

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A frame joint structure comprising:  
a first frame member of being U-shaped in cross section and having a first sidewall, a second sidewall, and a bottom wall and defining an opening;  
a second frame member, similar to the first frame member, and being of U-shaped in cross section and defining having an opening, said second frame member having an end portion connected to at least one of the first and second sidewalls sidewall and the second sidewall of the first frame member;  
a reinforcing member extending into the first frame member and the second frame member by predetermined lengths at a joint of the first frame member and the second frame member;  
a plate member closing the openings of the first and second frame members so as to form closed cross sections; and  
a foamed resin filling spaces defined by the plate member, the first and second frame members and the reinforcing member.
2. (Currently Amended) The A-joint structure according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member is generally T-shaped~~has a T-shape as viewed in top plan.~~
3. (Currently Amended) The A-joint structure according to claim 1, wherein the reinforcing member is generally L-shaped~~has an L-shape as viewed in top plan.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The A-joint structure according to claim 1, wherein the plate member, and the first frame member, and the second frame members member are made from a first metal material while the different from a metal material from which the reinforcing member is made from a second metal material, said first metal material being different than said second metal material.

5. (Currently Amended) A joining method for forming of a frame joint structure, comprising the steps of:

temporarily securing by welding an end portion of a second frame member of a U-shaped cross section having an opening to a first frame member of a U-shaped cross section having an opening so as to temporarily secure said first and second frame members together;

mounting a foam resin to a reinforcing member to be extended by predetermined lengths into the first frame member and the second frame member at a temporarily welded joint;

setting the reinforcing member mounted with the foam resin within the first frame member and within the second frame member;

closing the openings of the first and second frame members by a plate member so that the frame members have closed cross sections; and

heating and foaming the foam resin within the first and second frame members.

6. (Currently Amended) The frame joint structure forming method A joining method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of applying a coat of paint to a surface of the plate member after the closed cross-section forming step, wherein the heat foaming step comprises heat drying of the applied paint.